

ATLAS OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES. By Irving J. Treiger, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Illinois, Chicago; In Charge of Cardiographic Department, Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago; Consulting Cardiologist, Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium, Chicago. Illustrated with 69 Plates Containing 244 Illustrations, 11 in color. 1947. The C. V. Mosby Company.

Examples of the common types of heart disease are presented by the author, with brief clinical summaries, roentgenograms, electrocardiograms, and autopsy material. The only notable omission is that of thyroid heart disease. Illustrative material is clearly reproduced, and except for indistinct descriptive lettering on some of the roentgenograms, is excellent throughout. The roentgenographic material which the author has selected is well chosen, and correlation of the ante-mortem x-rays and necropsy specimens is the best feature of the atlas.

The material presented in the text is elementary in character, and diction and syntax are such that it is not easily read, nor can the author's reasoning be readily followed. The author's statement that arteriosclerotic heart disease may be characterized by aortic insufficiency and followed by left ventricular failure on this basis, is, in the opinion of the reviewer, misleading and unsupported by evidence presented in this book. The differentiation between "congenital anomalies of the heart" and "congenital heart disease" on the basis of the presence of congestive heart failure seems confusing and to serve no useful purpose. Similar differentiation is made in regard to arteriosclerotic and hypertensive heart disease: "Hypertension with left ventricular hypertrophy as shown on the roentgenogram and electrocardiogram is not hypertensive heart disease. It may be called so, if cardiac failure is associated with and caused by hypertension."

The electrocardiograms presented include the single chest lead, CF₁, and interpretations at times are questionable in the reviewer's opinion. The assumption that low voltage in the electrocardiogram may be considered as evidence of "myocardial insufficiency" cannot be supported as sound electrocardiographic interpretation. Similarly, the use of "coronary artery disease," as an electrocardiographic diagnosis, apparently based on non-specific abnormalities of QRS and T, is hazardous and too frequently a source of error to be justified.

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THE ENGRAMMES OF PSYCHIATRY. By J. M. Nielsen, M.D., F.A.C.P., and George N. Thompson, M.D. Price \$6.75. Chas. C. Thomas, Publisher.

This volume of approximately 500 pages may be recommended as a textbook for medical students, as a source of reliable information regarding psychiatry for the general practitioner, and as a most interesting document for serious study by psychiatrists and neurologists alike.

That it falls short of its objective of explaining all the phenomena of the disordered mind on the basis of experimentally demonstrated neurophysiological facts is due to no shortcomings of the authors, but rather to the unfortunate gaps in our knowledge. There remains, in spite of efforts such as are recorded in this book, a chasm between our knowledge of the brain as established by neurophysiology, and our knowledge of human behavior, most of which has come not from the laboratory but from the experience of psychiatrists in their dealings with the mentally ill.

The neurological orientation of the senior author is obvious throughout the book, which suffers not at all from this fact. It is, however, where this discipline does not produce too satisfactory an explanation for observed phenomena that the weak points of the work become obvious. Thus less than 10 per cent of the pages are devoted to the psychoneuroses, although these syndromes certainly account for the great majority of cases seen by the psychiatrist.

The authors are truly eclectic; they are willing to accept

the findings of any school so long as they do not conflict with accepted neurophysiological fact. From the standpoint of a strict adherence to any one of the many dogmatic schools of psychiatry this book probably will not be acceptable; so much to its credit. However, even the most liberal will probably take exception in some degree to the minimal consideration given by the authors to the effect of factors in the early environment of the patient on the later manifestations of his mental illness. Certainly we have learned that early environmental factors (and this reviewer does not include in this category intra-uterine impressions) are of the utmost importance, transcending in the great majority of cases those factors due to heredity and to organic changes in the nervous system.

In spite of the shortcomings listed above, this book remains a valuable contribution, and is a closer approach to a satisfactory textbook of psychiatry than any that the reviewer has had the opportunity of reading to this time.

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DISEASES OF CHILDREN. Patterson & Moncrieff, Fourth Edition. Published 1947. The Williams & Wilkins Company. \$9.00.

The British textbook is interesting for comparison with our own. There are certain chapters, particularly the one on breast milk and breast feeding, that are enlightening and well worth perusal. Then, too, it is always stimulating to compare points of view from different countries, for no matter how objective scientists try to be, traditional thoughts, ideas and concepts will be perpetuated in our literature and such points of view are often best challenged by reading some one else's traditions and concepts. Aside from this, the book is not of the quality of our best pediatric texts, either in organization or content. It is the work of many authors, which leads to some duplication and always to considerable difference in quality, making the book as a text difficult to evaluate.

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NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES. Issued under the direction and supervision of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia.

The 1947 edition of New and Nonofficial Remedies continues the classification of accepted remedies according to action and use; the large number of new accepted drugs and the larger number of accepted preparations of established drugs has greatly enlarged the book within the last three years. Among the newly accepted remedies are Carbowax, Digoxin, Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride (Benadryl), Folic Acid, Mestilbol (Monomestrol), Merperidine Hydrochloride (Demerol, Isonipeaine), Naphazoline Hydrochloride (Privine), Nitrofurazone (Furacin), Parenamine, Phenolized Gelatine, Streptomycin, Suramin, Thiouracil, Trimethadione (Tridione), Tuamine, and Vonedrine.

Items dropped include Ethylhydrocupreine Hydrochloride, Kephrene Hydrochloride, Larocaine Hydrochloride, and Lunoxol colloidal silver chloride).

Three items have been added to the list of U.S.P. preparations to be exempted from consideration, namely Ammonium Chloride, Lactate-Ringer's Solution, and Sodium-r-Lactate One-Sixth Molar.

In the 1947 edition there is a greater tendency to emphasize the non-proprietary name. A number of new non-proprietary names appear, and include Amydracaine (Alypin), Digitoxin (Digitaline), Iodopyracet (Diodrast), Methacholine (Mecholyl), Nitromersol (Metaphen), Phenylephrine (Neosynephrine), and Trimethadione (Tridione).

There are a number of changes in classification of drugs and corresponding chapter headings. Chapter I is changed from Allergic Preparations to Agents Used Against Al-